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NEWS RELEASE

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LOTTERY LAUNCHES "HOT LOTTO" GAME

The North Dakota Lottery forecasts a **hot** day on Thursday this week, when the Lottery's newest on-line game, **Hot Lotto**, begins at 398 retail outlets in 120 North Dakota towns and cities.

Attorney General Stenehjem, Lottery officials and representatives from the Lottery's ticket vendor, Scientific Games, and Fargo advertising agency, H2M, will be at the M & H Convenience Store in Mandan, ND beginning at 8:00 a.m. on June 24th, explaining the new game and offering "**hot**" promotional items to early risers.

"The Lottery takes pride in providing an outlet for fun as well as maximizing revenue for the state of North Dakota. **Hot Lotto** is another game that goes hand in hand with Powerball to do that," said Lottery Director Chuck Keller.

Like Powerball, **Hot Lotto** is a multi-state lottery game. It is also sold in D.C., Iowa, Minnesota, Montana, New Hampshire, South Dakota and West Virginia. There have been eight **Hot Lotto** jackpots won since the game started in August 2002 – four in Iowa, three in Minnesota and one in Montana. The current jackpot amount is \$5.34 million. This is the highest recorded jackpot in the history of **Hot Lotto**. Prior to this, the largest jackpot was \$3.67 million, won in Montana.

Hot Lotto drawings are held on Wednesdays and Saturdays, just after the Powerball drawings. Winning numbers will be available at the same locations that currently sell Powerball tickets, local television and radio stations, and newspapers. The numbers are also available on the Lottery's web site: www.ndlottery.org or by calling (701) 328-1111.

Since the Lottery's launch on March 25, 2004, it has generated over \$5.3 million in revenue and retailers have sold more than 114,000 winning Powerball tickets totaling over \$1 million in prizes!

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